

CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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DAN ENGELBERTSON, ADMINISTRATOR

November 13, 2001

Jeff Koenings, Director
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, Washington 98501-1091

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WDFW
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dear Director Koenings:

RE: Anne Shaffer, Habitat Biologist

The Board of Clallam County Commissioners and our County Marine Resources Committee, would like to acknowledge Anne Shaffer, WDFW habitat biologist, and in particular her continued invaluable contribution to the County and MRC efforts to understand and wisely manage the nearshore resources of the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Over the last two years, Anne, as an agency partner and grant co-author, has acted in a leadership role developing and coordinating the MRC workshop series entitled, "*The Nearshore Resources of the Strait of Juan de Fuca: How We Interact.*" The workshop proceedings are now available from the County. This yearlong project has resulted in clear citizen-based direction for wise future management of nearshore resources.

Over the last year Ms. Shaffer has also partnered with the Clallam County MRC on a comprehensive nearshore habitat-mapping project. As the senior author and project lead Anne, and two interns she supervises for the County, have worked collectively with local citizens to map surf smelt, sand lance, and herring spawning areas of the Strait, as well as quantify use of kelp bed habitats by juvenile salmonids and forage fish. Results of this work have given Clallam County invaluable new insight into its resources and habitats. Specifically, the County and WDFW have now documented five new surf smelt spawning beaches, and quantitative information on juvenile salmonids and forage fish use of nearshore habitats, including kelp beds, of the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Anne's long-time work on ulvoid mat and potential impacts to nearshore resources and habitats of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, partially sponsored by the Clallam County MRC and the US

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Coast Guard and published in this year's Puget Sound Research Conference, is also providing critical information for our management direction and priorities.


Ms. Shaffer, a keen scientist and resource manager, is an asset to the WDFW. We commend your agency as well as thank her for her continued partnership with Clallam County to promote wise resource, science and citizen-based management of Clallam County and Washington State marine resources.

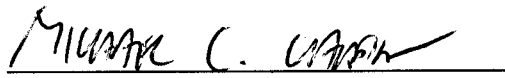
Joe Schmidt, Chairman, and the members of the County Marine Resource Committee, join us in this acknowledgement of the contributions of Anne Shaffer.

Sincerely,

CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Mike Doherty, Chair


Steve Tharinger


Mike Chapman

C: Bob Barkle
Sue Patnude
Anne Shaffer
Joe Schmidt